

Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi's Statement on Van Jones' Appointment by President Obama as the White House Council on Environmental Quality's Special Adviser for Green Jobs



Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, chair of the Commission for Economic Development and State Lands Commission and member of the Ocean Protection Council, issued the following statement today after President Barack Obama appointed Van Jones, the founder and president of Green for All, as the White House Council on Environmental Quality's special adviser for green jobs:

"I applaud President Obama's decision to tap Van Jones to spearhead the nation's green jobs priorities and his continued commitment to climate change and economic recovery solutions. Jones' best-selling book, "The Green Collar Economy," is a go-to primer on how governments and environmentalists can learn from previous mistakes and move forward promoting an agenda that combats global warming and pollution while creating green pathways out of poverty for residents of all levels of academic achievement.

When I founded the Clean Seas Coalition, an organization pushing California to strengthen laws reducing trash around California's seas and beaches, I took Jones' lessons to heart and worked with a diverse coalition of partners to send the message that polluted waterways impact Californians of all socioeconomic backgrounds. While Jones may be leaving California for the time being, his message will resonate in the Golden State for decades to come."